

What is claimed is:

1. A button apparatus used in a communication network environment employing a plurality of transceivers each
5 transmitting and receiving information by inducing an electric field in a human body serving as an electric-field propagating medium according to information to be transmitted and by detecting the electric field induced in the human body, the button apparatus being pressed down by a user, who wears a
10 first transceiver among the plurality of transceivers and a first computer that is connected to the first transceiver and keeps monetary information, to obtain a commodity or a service from a commodity/service providing apparatus, the button apparatus comprising:

15 a conductive pusher configured to be touched and pressed down with the body of the user when the user intends to obtain a commodity or a service from the commodity/service providing apparatus;

20 a second transceiver among the plurality of transceivers, configured to be enabled to communicate with the first transceiver by propagation of the electric field induced in the pusher when the body of the user touches the pusher;

25 a switch configured to transfer press information of the pusher when the pusher is pressed down, to a second computer that is connected to the second transceiver and conducts an electronic settlement by communicating monetary information with the first computer; and

an insulator configured to prevent the electric field induced in the pusher from leaking to the switch.

30

2. The button apparatus of claim 1, wherein a plurality of pairs of the pusher and switch are provided.

3. The button apparatus of claim 2, wherein the second

transceiver is provided for each pair of the plurality of pairs of the pusher and switch.

4. The button apparatus of claim 3, wherein each of the
5 second transceivers adds information for identifying itself to information transferred in a communication with the second computer.

5. The button apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:
10 a protective thin film configured to cover the pusher and prevent deterioration of the conductivity of the pusher.